

# Anchorage Amateur Radio Club



## Anchorage Amateur Radio Club

### General Meeting

**Carr-Gottstein Building  
Alaska Pacific University  
January 2, 2015  
7:00 PM**

**David Heimke  
Station Performance**



Let's start off the New Year with a look towards our newest amateurs with a discussion of **"Ten Ways to Improve Your Station's Performance – Cheap!"**.

In this presentation, Dave Heimke, AL7LO will give an overview of the basic HF and VHF ham station in an urban or suburban environment. There are challenges that have grown over the years that can be mitigated to increase enjoyment of the hobby.

The talk will go over the basic station, club test equipment that is available for use (with conditions), and what its limitations are.

We will also take an overview of many of the fascinating aspects of the hobby that have been evolving continuously, and may have elements that even hams licensed 30+ years ago may find very enjoyable.

Dave has been an amateur since 1974, is a licensed electrical engineer currently working at Alyeska Pipeline Service Company and a member of the board of the AARC, and also Activities Director.



### December was Annual Dues Month.

#### Who Do I Contact to Join AARC?

Fred Erickson KL7FE  
12531 Alpine Dr  
Anchorage, AK 99516-3121  
E-mail: [membership@kl7aa.net](mailto:membership@kl7aa.net)  
Phone Number: 345-2181  
Annual Dues are \$12 (prorated as appropriate)  
Additional Member in same household is \$6.  
Full Time Student is no charge.

### Or pay at the January meeting.

Have you considered a Life Membership?

Life \$250.00

Senior >65	\$200.00
>70	\$150.00
>75	\$100.00
>80	\$50.00
>85	\$1.00

**Anchorage Amateur Radio Club also  
accepts PayPal Payments.**



## Anchorage Amateur Radio Club Membership Application/Renewal

Membership Chairman: Fred Erickson KL7FE  
email: membership@kl7aa.net  
Phone number: 345-2181

Mail-in Membership Application

\_\_\_ New \_\_\_ Renewal

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign: \_\_\_\_\_

Address 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Address 2: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

eMail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues for a calendar year are as follows: • Individual membership \$12.00 (prorated) • Each add'l member-same address \$6.00 • Student \$no charge<sup>1</sup> • Life \$250.00<sup>2</sup> --<sup>1</sup>-"Student" is defined as any individual who is enrolled full-time at any educational institution, using the criteria for full-time enrollment of that institution. <sup>2</sup> --If over 65 yrs old, check with Fred.

I am enclosing payment for:

Subscription/Renewal for \_\_\_\_\_ year(s).

Total USD Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Mail your Payment and this Completed Application to:

**Anchorage Amateur Radio Club**  
c/o Fred Erickson, Membership Chairman  
12531 Alpine Dr  
Anchorage, AK 99516-3121

### **Tips for Public Service Communicators** (from the ARES E-letter for December 17, 2014)

Here is a great set of tips from the St. Louis (Missouri) Metro ARES/RACES Group, with the permission and courtesy of EC Steve Wooten, KCOQMU, and AEC for Operations Gary Hoffman, KB0H.

#### **Things to avoid saying on the air, Number 1**

"Okay, I'll do it. But it's not actually my job. The guy who's supposed to do that is always away from the table doing something else." The other operator doesn't want to hear any of that and it ties up the frequency. Make a note of your complaints in your log and bring them up at the debriefing, but keep them off the air. -- *Gary Ross Hoffman, KB0H*

#### **The value of tactical call signs**

Tactical call signs such as "Shelter 5", "Net Control", and "EOC" are descriptive and give immediate information. They can be very useful during planned events and during emergencies. Do not, however, forget to include your FCC call sign at ten minutes intervals and at the end of each contact.

#### **Never alter a message**

Do not alter a message, even to correct a typographical error. What you think is right may actually be wrong. Moreover, any change you make might subtly alter the meaning of the message. Send or write it exactly as you receive it.

#### **Do not use VOX**

VOX stands for voice activated transmitter. VOX devices are handy gadgets, but should not be used in an emergency setting. Ambient noise might activate the transmitter and tie up the frequency. Also, you do not want your casual comments to go out over the air.

#### **You are your own safety officer**

When setting up or operating a station of any size, the very first thing on your mind should be, is it safe? Am I going to irradiate anyone with RF energy? Could my battery spill acid? Can it fall on anyone's foot? Have I created an electrical hazard? Could anyone trip over my feedline or get poked in the eye by my antenna? The safety of your station is your responsibility. Make sure that it cannot harm you or anyone else. -- *KB0H*

#### **Every piece of equipment can break, including you**

We all have limits. Don't overtax yourself during a deployment. Watch for signs of fatigue, stress, adverse reactions to the environment and so forth. Stop and take a break if you need one. It is better to have a silent radio than a fresh casualty. -- *KB0H*

#### **Listen to the Net Controller's instructions**

One of the most common mistakes on regular nets is that operators assume that they know what the Net Controller is going to say. They miss the Net Controller's instructions and wind up giving

inappropriate responses. This can be calamitous in an emergency situation. One way to develop the habit of paying attention is to write down the key elements of what the Net Controller is saying. You might be surprised to find that it's not always the same thing. -- *KBOH*

### **Keep it brief**

Air time is precious, especially when there are numerous operators on the same frequency. Refrain from over-explaining things, engaging in personal greetings and chats, and anything else that might prevent important traffic from getting through. -- *KBOH*

### **Are you following procedures?**

Operating procedures are developed from many hours of examining what went wrong during disasters. Familiarize yourself with the procedures and practice them in exercises. Arriving at a disaster scene and trying to freestyle it will only cause problems. -- *KBOH*

### **Check the transceiver for overheating**

Digital modes are great for sending forms, long lists, images and so forth. They also use a lot more duty cycles of your transceiver than ordinary voice communications. Check to make sure that your rig is not overheating. Reduce the transmit power level if your unit feels hot. -- *KBOH*

### **Have fuses handy**

Much of your equipment has one or more fuses. Check each item, make a list of the fuses you might need, then put together a small fuse kit. Be sure to replace any fuses you wind up using. -- *KBOH*

### **Yes, you are ready to participate**

Caution is good, but don't let it prevent you from participating and volunteering. Everyone makes mistakes on their first try, or first dozen tries, and everyone survives them. You will find that most other hams will be sympathetic and supportive of your efforts. -- *KBOH*

### **Don't avoid the exercises**

It's a mistake to ignore an exercise because you are already familiar with what it is about. There are always surprises, new elements, and things that you've forgotten. Your presence will also help those participants who are less familiar with the exercise's concepts. -- *KBOH*

### **Keep learning**

Everything is dynamic, including emergency communications. Procedures and techniques that were standard ten years ago are out of date today. Never sit back and feel that you've learned everything you'll need to know. -- *KBOH*

### **You brought your radio to the emergency, but will you be able to power it?**

Antenna connectors are fairly generic, but what about power connections? ARES groups around the country use Anderson Powerpoles as the standard power connector on their equipment.

### **Push THEN Talk**

Pause for a second after keying up your transmitter. It may be slower to react than you realize. -- *John Weis, N0UFB*

### **Maintain a fire extinguisher near your battery charging station**

This applies primarily to larger batteries, but every battery is a chemical device and you will be pumping energy into it. Having a fire extinguisher handy is a reasonable precaution. -- *Jim Conley, N00BG*

### **Mark your equipment**

Be sure that every piece of your equipment is marked with at least your name and call sign. After the emergency, you'll want any property you left behind to find its way back to you.

### **It's going to be noisy, so have a set of headphones**

It's always a good idea to have a set of headphones around, but it may be an absolute necessity in an emergency. You may be placed in an area where other operators are working on different bands, you may be out in the open, or you may even be in the middle of a noisy shelter. A headset should be a vital part your equipment. You can't communicate if you can't hear.

### **Outdoors isn't indoors**

Even in an urban or suburban setting, working outdoors isn't like working indoors. You may have taken your equipment into consideration, but don't forget yourself. Think about your allergies, the sun, heat, cold, bugs and everything else that might affect you. Treat your outside deployment or exercise as if it were a camping trip and prepare for it accordingly. -- *KBOH*

### **Think about next time**

During every deployment or exercise, think about the next time. You will always find that something is missing, broken, doesn't work as expected, wasn't planned for and so forth. Keep a mental record, or better still a written one of everything that is wrong. Be sure to look it over carefully after the event so you will be better prepared next time. -- *KBOH*

### **Eat**

Do not skip meals just because things are busy. You may not think that you need to eat anything, but volunteers have suddenly fainted without feeling any early symptoms that something was wrong. At the very least, consume an energy bar or a quick snack. -- *KBOH*

### **Is no one responding on the secondary frequency?**

If you have a transceiver capable of handling two frequencies simultaneously and no one is responding on that second channel, the problem may be as simple as the volume has been turned down. -- *KBOH*

See the complete list of excellent tips on the [St. Louis Metro ARES/RACES](http://www.stlmetroares.com) website.

## THE AARC ANTENNA

From: ARRL Members Only Web site [<mailto:memberlist@www.arrl.org>]

Sent: Friday, December 12, 2014 9:20 AM

To: [david.heimke@gmail.com](mailto:david.heimke@gmail.com)

Subject: Northwestern Division December 2014 Newsletter

### WWARA Makes Donation to the ARRL Education and Technology Fund:

Many thanks to the WWARA for their generous donation of \$1,000.00 to support ARRL's Education and Technology fund.....ARRL's successful efforts to promote Amateur Radio Stations in schools and to provide professional development for teachers, in wireless technology.

The ARRL developed their education outreach project to introduce teachers to Amateur Radio as an instructional resource and to provide an educationally sound curriculum focused on wireless communications. The goal is to offer the resources to build a foundation of wireless technology literacy among American teachers and students.

Again, many thanks to members and officers of The Western Washington Amateur Relay Association (WWARA). WWARA has been providing frequency coordination services for Western Washington since 1976.

### Tiny School in Alaska Fills Big Shoes:

Pilot Station Alaska: Pilot Station Students take to the airwaves and third place for School Club Round Up 2014. During the second week of October a group of students from the Lower Yukon School District's Pilot Station School, participated in the fall edition of the ARRL School Club Round up competition. School club round up is a twice yearly week long event held every October and February. "It is believed by the event organizers that we were the first school station to participate from Alaska", said Donn Gallon, KL7DG, Pilot Station 5th grade teacher.

Donn Gallon, KL7DG (former K7LOP and resident of Centralia, WA) moved to Pilot Station this year to teach 5th grade in the 175 student K-12 village school. Donn is a real advocate for Ham Radio, especially to his students. Recent conversations in Pilot Station include obtaining a call sign for the School Club, and starting an ARES group in the area. Check out the article in The Delta Discovery at:

<http://www.deltadiscovery.com/story/2014/12/03/youth-news/pilot-station-students-take-to-the-airwaves-and-third-place-for-school-club-round-up-2014/2730.html>

Donn and the students are on the air periodically, so listen for them and 'talk'm up.

### W1AW/7, Washington State:

Eastern Washington SM Mark Tharp, KB7HDX, reports: Coordinating the W1AW/7 operation for the second week in Washington was the most fun I have ever had and most likely ever will have in Amateur radio.

Shortly after meeting Dave Patton, NN1N in person at the PNW DX convention in 2013, he called, and asked if I would be interested in coordinating the second week. I thought about it for a short time (like 30 seconds) and of course said yes. How hard could that be? Fortunately it was not hard, but very time consuming.



## THE AARC ANTENNA

The short list of stations I wanted to be involved was the only thing that took moments... The rest was time consuming. We had a yahoo group to keep informed, and sent over 500 messages back and forth prior, and during the week.

Building the team was almost as much fun as operating. It was great to be able to offer this once in a lifetime chance to be the DX to so many of the great amateurs we have in Washington. We used an online, real time schedule that allowed the operators to just jump on when they had extra time during the week, and that was in my opinion the reason for our high q total.

We were on the bands pretty much all the time, and tried to balance our modes to accommodate as many folks as we could. One afternoon I got an email from HQ that one of the operators was too close to the SSTV gang on 20 meters. So after an email to the team, and taking a think on the subject, I called up my buddy Tom, KC7PH former SM of EWA and told him the story. Then asked him if he wanted to BE W1AW.... Well, after that discussion, we were no longer interfering with the gang on 20 meter SSTV, Tom was calling CQ AS W1AW/7. We ended up with 22 SSTV Q's in the log, and many of them are confirmed on LOTW!

For the week, we ended up with a raw q total of 47,343 contacts. 38 stations were on the team, AE7NR, K7AR, K7BTW, K7CEX, K7GS, K7WA, K9JF, K9QJS, K9VD, KB7HDX, KC7PH, KI7DG, KK7UF, KO7I, KT7G, KW7Y, KZ1W, N6AU, N6NR, N7AU, N7KRN, N7MZ, N7NM, N7WA, N7XS, W7BJN, W7CCY, W7CNP, W7GB, W7GTF, W7LRD, W7SXM, W7ZF, WA7LT, WD7K, WR5J, WR7K, and WS7I. Combined with the station owners 99 folks participated and were on the air AS W1AW/7 during the week.

HR 4969:

As we all have experienced, the political process is complex and slow and the wheels of government are even slower. That being said, our efforts with HR 4969 have had measures of success; we intended to obtain 30 co sponsors for the Bill and actually ended up with almost 70 co sponsors, and ARRL's advocacy is once again being known and gleaming interest in the halls of Congress.

Although we got a very late start on the legislative effort last June, because of waiting for a minority cosponsor to make a commitment so that a truly bipartisan bill could be introduced, we were able to amass an exceptional and surprising level of support for the Bill, given the co-sponsorship. This will give us a big head start in the 114th Congress beginning in January. We have in mind reassembling at least 60 of the cosponsors that we had for H.R. 4969 as original cosponsors for the new Bill which should give us momentum to obtain a much larger list of cosponsors for the new Bill. We have also have had expressions of interest, from some Senators, in sponsoring a Senate version of the Bill. So far, opposition from the one association representing HOAs has been only minimally active in attempts to oppose the Bill and they have been unsuccessful due to their misstatements of fact and mischaracterization of the actual effect of the Bill.

We were well-aware that there was likely not enough time to pass H.R. 4969 in the 113th Congress, but it was urgent to begin the process and amass the largest showing of support for the good work of Amateur Radio operators that we could, so as to build momentum for the contin-



## THE AARC ANTENNA

uation of the process in the 114th Congress. So far, we are way ahead of where we hoped to be by this time.

Many thanks to all of you, who wrote, called and visited your Congressional Representatives, as we began our travel in the maze of representative government; your efforts have not gone un-noticed and have built a strong foundation for the next phase.

Not Too Early to Make Your SeaPac Motel Reservations:

The SeaPac Committee is hard at work getting things organized for another great weekend at Seaside. There are going to be lots of seminars, exhibitors and activities....making June 5, 6 & 7, 2015 a great weekend at the beach. As in the past, we expect the prime motel and campsites to go quickly. I'll see you at SeaPac 2015

December 31 – Red Badge Day:

It's getting down to crunch time: The ARRL Centennial QSO Party ends in just about 3 weeks! If you've been procrastinating about building your point totals to the certificate level, one more major opportunity to put some serious points into your log is just ahead.

The final 2014 Red Badge Days will take place and on Wednesday, December 31. Vice Director Bonnie Altus, AB7ZQ is worth 200 points and Director Jim Pace, K7CEX, is worth 225 points. Get on the air and bring the year of celebration to a Ham Radio conclusion.

Here is Something to Try:

Although a short operating time, it might be fun to copy SSTV from the International Space Station: The Russian Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) team members plan to activate slow-scan television (SSTV) from the ISS on December 18 and December 20. The expected SSTV mode will be PD180 on a frequency of 145.800 MHz with 3-minute off periods between transmissions. Several passes will be over North America.

Twelve different photos will be sent during the operational period.

Transmissions will begin at around 1420 UTC on December 18 and 1240 UTC on December 20. The transmissions should terminate around 2130 UTC each day. — Thanks to Gaston Bertels, ON4WF, ARISS-Europe Chairman

Although the passes aren't too favorable for the Northwestern Division, you never know what a little software and good antenna can do.

LOTW Hits New Milestone:

ARRL's Logbook of The World Tops 100 Million QSL Records! The ARRL's Logbook of The World (LoTW) online "card-less" contact-confirmation service this week recorded a new milestone -- 100 million QSL records out of some 630 million uploaded contacts. That's an increase of more than 18 million QSL records since the end of last year. First described conceptually in the October 2001 QST "It Seems to Us..." editorial, Logbook of The World launched in September 2003. Since then, it has become an accepted Amateur Radio institution -- perhaps not at the same level of traditional QSL cards, but close and gaining. The 100 million contact confirmations, ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, pointed out, are the equivalent of 200 million QSL cards.

## THE AARC ANTENNA

End of 2014:

Soon 2014 will be over and the ARRL celebration of its Centennial, with the conventions, on air activities and all the hustle and bustle will come to an end. However, it sounds like the excitement will continue into the next year.

One of the great messages I received this year was from a Ham that had not been on the air much. He was so excited about getting on for the W1AW Portable event and the Centennial QSO party. "I've never had so much fun", was his comment. This response was echoed all over the Country. We even have been getting suggestions to do more on air activities. We'll see what the New Year brings.

In the meantime let's continue to advocate for Ham Radio to our friends, fellow students and co-workers, and make 2015 another hallmark year.

Check out upcoming Division and Section events and Classes:

[www.n7cfo.com](http://www.n7cfo.com)

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ARRL Northwestern Division  
Director: James D Pace, K7CEX  
[k7cex@arrl.org](mailto:k7cex@arrl.org)  
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### News and Notes:

2/24/2014  
TOM RUTIGLIANO  
NL7TZ

At the age where you can get free registration in the state of Alaska and you have a ham radio plate on your car there will be a challenge.

Right now hams only pay for the tax on the vehicle and not the registration fee, when you become a Amateur Radio Plates and Senior exception senior you are allowed to get a permanent sticker that says you do not have to pay any registration fees or taxes.

Today I went in to get my permanent registration and with my ham radio license plate there was some question is whether I was able to, I did not get a permanent tag, what I got was no registration fee, no tax but I still have to renew my ham plates every two years.

So if you have Ham plates on your vehicle and are over 65 you do not have to pay for the tax but will still have to go on every two years.

I did ask if I could change to a personalized plate and I was told I would have to remove my radios and antennas. I don't get that one.



## Anchorage Amateur Radio Club Board Meeting, November 17, 2014



### Approved Minutes

The Anchorage Amateur Radio Club board meeting was held November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The meeting was opened at 7:05 PM by President Lara Baker.

The following Board members were present: Lara Baker, AL2R, Paul Spatzek, KL7PS, Ron Keech, KL7YK, Alice Baker, KL2GD, Richard Tweet, KL2AZ, David Heimke, AL7LO, Keith Clark, KL7MM, TJ Sheffield, KL7TS, George Wilkinson, KL1JJ, TJ Tombleson, KB8JXX, Mark Sabel, WD6BMJ, and Lillian Marvin, KL7YF.

The following Board members were present by conference: Jim Wiley, KL7CC, Rich Gillin, AL4S, and Eric Thompson, N6SPP.

Excused absences: Fred Erickson, KL7FE, and Kent Petty, KL5T.

The following was removed from the old business in the agenda: The North Slope ambulance which may replace the CCV. The agenda was approved unanimously.

Secretary's Report: Mark Sabel reported that, according to the Durell Law Group, the by-laws do not need to be filed. However, any changes to the Articles of Incorporation do have to be filed.

The minutes to the October Board meeting were corrected as follows: TJ Tombleson's call sign was corrected from KL8JXX to KB8JXX. Jim Wiley moved and Ron Keech seconded to approve the minutes. They were approved unanimously with the aforementioned correction.

TJ Sheffield gave a short budget report.

Treasurer's Report: Alice Baker, KL2GD, reported that she had received another \$500.00 Restitution Payment. Restitution Payments are now up to approximately \$10,000.

Alice asked Eric Thompson if he had been compensated by AARC for any expenses incurred in his JODA exercise.

Eric replied that he had had no expenses and did not need compensation.

Alice Baker has been contacted by the Gold Nugget Triathlon organization. They will begin their planning meetings on Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> to get ready for the event – which takes place in May. Alice suggested that AARC members consider volunteering for the event.

## THE AARC ANTENNA

Alice also reported that all rents and repeater bills, etc. are being paid as normal. Lara reported that the finance committee continues to carefully review the books item by item.

Finance Committee: reports that finances are in good shape. They are awaiting a resolution on a gaming issue, in terms of funds, which they expect to have resolved within two weeks.

Grants Committee: The ARRL education fund was moved to old business because it was referred to the Grants Committee. The Grants Committee recommended that the board donate \$100.00 to the ARRL education fund. Alice moved and TJ Sheffield seconded that \$100.00 be sent to the ARRL education fund. The motion was passed unanimously.

Lara Baker discussed sending a letter to those who have received grants to ask how the grant money was spent. The purpose of this would be so that the club could have a record of how this money was spent.

Gaming Committee: The committee reported receiving a gaming check for \$2500.00 the previous Monday. Lara Baker will sort out what is happening with loans and paybacks and insurance and will report his findings at the December Board Meeting.

Projects: TJ Sheffield gave a report on the status of ongoing projects. 8 out of 10 projects are complete for spending, though not all of the projects are operational. Corrections or edits discussed by the finance committee will be put on the books. Charges for a helicopter trip to Grubstake are still pending and are currently unknown.

TJ Sheffield reports that the Senior Center project is still a work in progress.

VE Program: Jim Wiley reports no significant changes in the VE program. Work on the question pool continues. The final draft version for the general class license will be released in the near future. Jim has included flyers containing applications to join the club of the applicant's choice free for one year.

TJ Tomblason inquired about the procedure to apply for an expired license. Applicants can go on the AARC club website – then click on VEC for instructions on applying for an expired license.

Jim was asked if there were any amateur radio classes planned for the near future. Jim advised interested parties to purchase an ARRL or Gordon West study manual and to take the online FCC practice exams offered at various sites. Jim will also develop a website listing names and contact info for mentors/elders.

Trustee: Keith Clark reported that the club station is used every Wednesday. He reports no requests for use of the club call sign in the near future.

Membership: Fred Erickson was absent from the meeting and there was no membership report.

## THE AARC ANTENNA

Jim Wiley will generate a membership form for use on e-mail. Alice Baker will also generate forms to bring to the December general meeting.

By-Laws: Bylaws are settled. Rules of procedure will probably not be ready by the December meeting.

ARES: Kent Petty was absent. Consequently, there was no ARES report.

Alice Baker reported that our assistance in the Mayor's Marathon was not universally applauded. The Board is considering the possibility of discontinuing amateur radio communications for the Mayor's Marathon.

Alice Baker reports that the newsletter needs articles. She will mail the newsletter to those who are having trouble receiving it through e-mail.

She also suggested having an occasional "bull session" for the general meeting.

Alice moved and Richard Tweet seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was duly adjourned at 8:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lillian Marvin, KL7YF  
Secretary



**Anchorage Amateur Radio Club**  
**General Meeting, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014**  
**Approved Minutes**



This was the annual Christmas Party. Food was provided by the Alaska Pacific University Culinary Arts Department. We cleaned up every mouthful.

The funny T-shirt contest was won by Lil Marvin, KL7YF.

The Chinese auction produced the normal mix of fun stuff and "nice" stuff. And it took a long time to finally close the auction.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30PM.

Respectfully submitted.

Alice Baker, KL2GD

## THE AARC ANTENNA

### People to Help You!! — 2015 Officers.

#### Officers

President	Lara Baker	AL2R	president@kl7aa.net
Vice President	Ron Keech	KL7YK	vicepresident@kl7aa.net
Secretary	Lillian Marvin	KL7YF	secretary@kl7aa.net
Treasurer	Alice Baker	KL2GD	treasurer@kl7aa.net

#### Board of Directors

##### 3 year term— ends 2017

George Wilkinson	KL1JJ	gdwilkinson2@yahoo.com
Jim Wiley	KL7CC	jwiley@gci.net
Dave Heimke	AL7LO	david.heimke@gmail.com

##### 2 Year term— ends 2016

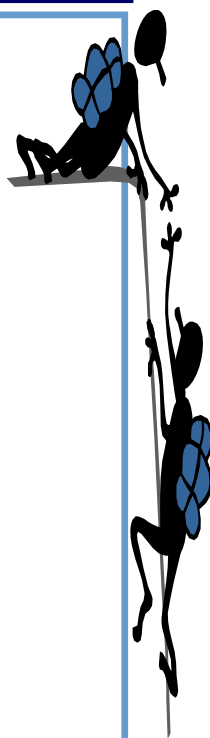
Eric Thompson	N6SPP	n6spp@arrl.net
Richard Tweet	KL2AZ	aktweeter@gmail.net
Rich Gillin	AL4S	rich@gillin.us

##### 1 Year term— ends 2015

Paul Spatzek	KL7PS	pspatzek@alaskapublic.org
TJ Sheffield	KL7TS	kl7ts@arrl.net
Kent Petty	KL5T	pettyak@gmail.com

#### Other Contacts

Trustee	Keith Clark	KL7MM	trustee1@kl7aa.net
Membership	Fred Erickson	KL7FE	membership@kl7aa.net
Newsletter Editor	Alice Baker	KL2GD	editor@kl7aa.net
Web Master	Ron Keech	KL7YK	webmaster@kl7aa.net
Activities Director	Dave Heimke	AL7LO	david.heimke@gmail.com



## Regular Committee Meetings:

**By-Laws Committee:** Contact Lara Baker, AL2R

**Finance Committee:** Monday of week before Board meeting, 7:00PM at Hamshack.  
Contact Keith Clark, KL7MM, trustee@KL7aa.net for info.  
(Members: Chair, Keith Clark, KL7MM, and Alice Baker, KL2GD.)

**Projects Committee:** Tuesday of week before Board meeting, 7:00PM at HamShack.  
Contact TJ Sheffield, KL7TS, kl7ts@arrl.net for info.  
(Members: Chair, TJ Sheffield, KL7TS, Rich Gillin, AI4S, and George Wilkinson, KL1JJ)

**VEC Testing:** Testing on 1st Tuesday and 2nd Saturday each month.  
Contact Jim Wiley, KL7CC, jwiley@gci.net for info.

**VHF:** As needed (usually with a repeater in trouble and needing "aid").  
Contact Doug Dickinson, KL7IKX, kl7ikx@yahoo.com.

## Who Do I Contact to Join AARC?

Fred Erickson KL7FE  
12531 Alpine Dr  
Anchorage, AK 99516-3121  
E-mail: membership@kl7aa.net  
Phone Number: 345-2181  
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Have you considered a Life Membership?

Life	\$250.00
Senior >65	\$200.00
>70	\$150.00
>75	\$100.00
>80	\$50.00
>85	\$1.00



## For Sale



If you have equipment that you want to have listed for sale, please notify the editor at [editor@KL7AA.net](mailto:editor@KL7AA.net) before the 20th of the month. Thanks for your help.

Items advertised will have a "date of first appearance" added — and they will be deleted after two months appearance on the newsletter unless we are otherwise notified.

Please check [KL7AA.net](http://KL7AA.net) website for updates on availability of these items.



## THE AARC ANTENNA

**For sale: from Jim Wiley, KL7CC**

December 2014

(please check with Jim W. for current availability status)

email: [KL7CC@arrl.net](mailto:KL7CC@arrl.net)

Offered here to list members for to 1 week. If not sold here, then it goes to eBay, at a higher asking price.

Offers are welcome. I may decide to accept a different price, or a partial trade. Send me an email with your offer to find out.

Professionally assembled and calibrated Elecraft K2 station for sale. CW, data or SSB, 160 through 10 meters.

Assembled and tested by professional electronics engineer and quality assurance specialist. 100% operational, meets or exceeds all current specs. From a non-smoking environment, with many accessories and extras. Will sell the K2 by itself, or the combined K2 + amp/tuner, or just the amplifier-tuner.

Get yourself or a ham in your family a very nice Christmas present!

Save US \$100.00 with the combo price.

The K2 radio can be coupled to the 100-watt amp + automatic antenna coupler for a completely integrated home or RV mounted station. The 100-watt amplifier + automatic antenna tuner is in a separate enclosure for maximum operational flexibility.

For emergency or easy to carry portable use, simply disconnect the cables between the two boxes, leaving a low powered (approximately 15 to 20-watt) station that is complete with its own internal auto-coupler and gel-cell battery. In this configuration, you get a complete station that fits inside a zip-up lockable canvas carry bag (Samsonite) that is about the size of "fat" 3-ring binder

Run-time on internal battery is of course dependent on charge and transmit power level, but typically it will be good for an entire weekend of casual CW or SSB contacts. The battery can be charged from external 12-volts DC, or by using the supplied AC powered charger / power supply.

All items are in very good cosmetic condition, no dents, chipped paint, or scratches (a few very light wear markings) and are from a non-smoking environment.

Internal and external photographs are available on request.

Price includes prepaid insured shipping via USPS Priority mail or FedEx 2nd day air (my option) to all 50 US states and territories.

Shipping to other countries will be calculated as needed, and is in addition to prices quoted. Appli-

## THE AARC ANTENNA

cable customs fees and other import charges, if any, are the responsibility of the purchaser.

Contact me off list for additional information and answers to your questions. send email to: [KL7CC@arrl.net](mailto:KL7CC@arrl.net)

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Basic radio: Elecraft K2 S/N 3935 (see also: separate 100-watt amplifier / antenna coupler, below)

This K2 includes all software and hardware updates and mods to meet current production specs

Options included with base K2 radio (all fully assembled and tested unless noted):

KSB2 SSB adapter  
KIO2 RS-232 interface  
KAT2 Automatic antenna coupler (20 watt internal)  
KNB2 Noise blanker  
KDSP2 Advanced DSP filter and real-time clock  
KBT2 Internal battery (with new battery)  
K160RX 160-meter and 2nd RX antenna module  
FDIMP Finger dimple for tuning knob

Original Rev. E assembly manual with updates. (manual is completely free of pen/pencil marks)

New, unused K2VCO shield kit (not needed and never installed, since 100-watt PA is in an external cabinet)

New, unused ETS-2 tilt stand

Note: the 60-meter option is not included. This module is available directly from Elecraft if that band is of interest to you

Included non-Elecraft options:

Nifty operators guide. Covers every aspect of operating the K2. Has condensed operating instructions for all modes and options

Samsonite lockable padded canvas Zip-up carry case (holds K2, mic, paddle, user manual, headset (not supplied), a small roll of antenna wire (also not supplied) and still has room for a few widgets of your choice)

4-amp light weight 120 VAC powered automatic battery charger / DC power supply

Set of Deluxe Rework eliminators (new, unused and never assembled)

Loudspeaker sound redirector (changes sound from K2 cabinet speaker from top to forward fir-

## THE AARC ANTENNA

ing). Attaches with Velcro, easily installed or removed

all necessary cables (everything except the antenna and feedline, that's your choice)

New price, for all items listed above, approx US \$1800.00

Asking: US \$1100.00 (add US \$25.00 if using PayPal)

Optional items, at extra charge (sold only with above radio)

Palm mini-paddle, with cable, gray (matches K2 color): US \$65.00 (new price: US \$120.00)

Kenwood MC-43 hand microphone US \$25.00 (new price: US \$45.00)

Heil Pro-set (headset / microphone combo) US \$75.00 (new price: US \$110.00)

---

Also available: Combined KPA100 (100 watt amplifier) and KAT100-2 100-watt automatic antenna coupler in separate EC-2 case, including all interconnecting cables and power cords. Covers 160 - 10 meters, fully automatic bandswitching when connected to base K2 radio

As before, professionally assembled and tested by electronics engineer / quality assurance specialist. 100% operational, meets all specifications. Excellent appearance (same as radio, as described above), from a non-smoking environment.

Photos available on request

Amplifier / Antenna coupler / RF and DC cables:

New price approximately US \$730.00 (including the RF, DC power, and control cables that were not supplied as part of the original kit)

Asking US \$400.00 if sold with radio (US \$500.00 if sold separately) Add US \$15.00 if using PayPal

Optional at extra cost: 120-volt super-small DC power supply that provides up to 18 amperes at 13.8 volts DC. This compact power supply can run both the radio and the 100-watt amplifier combination Asking US \$75.00 for this unit, sold only with the amplifier.

Price includes prepaid shipping via USPS Priority mail or FedEx 2nd day air (my option) to all 50 US states and territories. Shipping to other countries will be in accord with the statement for the base radio, above.

Jim, KL7CC, Anchorage, AK



## Upcoming Events

**Plan ahead:**

**It is time to set aside the dates for the  
Community Service events.**

**May will be busy.**

### 2015 Events:

**Walk/Ride for Hope**

**Date unknown**

**Coordinator, Keith Clark, KL7MM**

**MS—Walk around Lake Hood**

**May 9, 2015**

**Coordinator, Allen Abbott KB1QCE**

**Gold Nugget Triathlon**

**Sunday, May 17th**

**Coordinator, Alice Baker KL2GD**

**MS-150**

**May 30, 2015**

**Coordinator, Allen Abbott KB1QCE**

**Mayor's Marathon/Half Marathon**

**June 20, 2015**

**Coordinator, Alice Baker KL2GD**



# THE AARC ANTENNA

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club  
PO BOX 101987  
Anchorage, AK 99510-1987  
[www.KL7AA.net](http://www.KL7AA.net)



## January 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 AARC General Meeting 7:00PM	3
4	5	6 VE Testing	7	8	9	10 VE Testing
11	12 Finance Com. 7:00	13 Projects Com. 7PM Ears Genl. Mtg	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 AARC Board Meeting 7 PM	21 MARA Board Meeting 7 PM	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 Mara Meeting 7:00 PM	31

### ARES NETS:

1st Thursday: HT / Portable  
2nd Thursday: Mobile Madness  
3rd Thursday: RED CROSS  
4th Thursday: Emergency Power

### ARES Net: Thursday Nights 8:00 PM

147.33+ PL:103.5  
443.900+ PL:103.5

## MONTHLY EVENTS

**1<sup>st</sup> Friday each month: AARC general meeting - 7:00 PM** in the Carr-Gottstein Building, on the APU Campus. Talk in will be on 147.33+ repeater.

**1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday each month (except for holidays):**

**VE License Exam 6:30 PM**, at the Hope Cottage offices, 540 W International. Bring photo ID, copy of license (if any) and any certificates of completion. Contact: Jim Wiley, KL7CC 688-0660.

**1<sup>st</sup> Thursday each month: Moosehorn Amateur Radio Club General meeting - 7:00 PM**

Location changes monthly so call on 146.88-repeater for info. Moosehorn ARC also holds a weekly luncheon every Thursday, locations and times change — contact George Van Lone, KL7AN: don-nav@acsalaska.net

**2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday each month: PARKA (Polar Amateur Radio Klub of Alaska) Meeting at 11:00 AM.**

Polar Amateur Radio Klub of Alaska. All amateurs welcome. Denny's on Denali Street in Anchorage. Some business is discussed. Originally established as an all woman organization, membership now includes spouses or significant others. Talk in on 147.30+.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday each month (except for holidays):**

**VE License Exams at 2:00 PM.** at Hope Cottage 540 W. International. Be sure to bring photo ID, copy of license (if any) and any certificates of completion. Contact: Jim Wiley, KL7CC 688-0660.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday each month: AARC Board Meeting at 7:00 PM at Hope Cottage 540 W. International. All hams are invited and encouraged to attend.**

**2nd Tuesday of each month: EARS general meeting at 5:00 PM.** EARS meetings are held at the EARS shack location. Contact info - Doug Myers, KL1DJ or Ron Keech, KL7YK for information. EARS: 552-2664 (recording); Talk in on 146.67-. Email: [club@KL7air.us](mailto:club@KL7air.us) or [kl7yk@arri.net](mailto:kl7yk@arri.net)

**4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month: Valley VE Testing at 7:00 PM.** Sessions will be held at Fire Station 61, at 7 pm on the fourth Saturday of each month unless it is a major holiday weekend. Contact Ken Slauson, KL7VE, Ken.Slauson@gmail.com or 907-376-8698.

**The last Friday each month: MARA meeting at 7:00 PM,** Wasilla Fire Station 61. Talk-in help for the meeting can be acquired on the 146.850 repeater. Further details can be found by contacting Don Bush, KL7JFT, [dbush@gci.net](mailto:dbush@gci.net).

**Every Monday at 11:00 AM:** Meeting of interested Amateur Radio Operators — and lunch at Denny's on DeBarr — across from Costco. Many code and HF operators attend this function. Come talk radio. For information, contact Kathy O'Keefe, KL7KO, [kokalaska@gmail.com](mailto:kokalaska@gmail.com)

**Every Saturday at 7:00 AM:** Meeting of a group of Amateur Radio Operators at Denny's on Denali for breakfast. Topics? Radio, photography, and upcoming events For information, contact Kathy O'Keefe, KL7KO, [kokalaska@gmail.com](mailto:kokalaska@gmail.com)



## THE AARC ANTENNA

### AARC web page & Email contact addresses:

Homepage: <http://www.KL7AA.net/>

Webmaster: [webmaster at kl7aa.net](mailto:webmaster@kl7aa.net)

Membership: [membership at kl7aa.net](mailto:membership@kl7aa.net)

Newsletter: [editor at kl7aa.net](mailto:editor@kl7aa.net)

### Internet Links, the favorites from our readers:

AARC <http://www.KL7AA.net>

EARS <http://www.kl7air.us>

MARA <http://www.kl7jfu.com>

Moose Horn ARC <http://www.moosehornarc.com>

PARKA <http://www.parka-kl7ion.com>

South Central Alaska ARES <http://www.kl7aa.net/ares.htm>

Practice Exams : <http://www.AA9PW.com>

Fairbanks AARC: <http://www.kl7kc.com/>

Alaska Navy/Marine Corps MARS: <http://www.navymars.org/pacific/reg10/AK>

Alaska VHF-Up Group: <http://www.gsl.net/ak-vhf/>

Yukon Amateur Radio Association: <http://www.yara.ca/>

Links for Propagation: <http://www.haarp.alaska.edu/> (not operational)

QRP and Homebrew Links : <http://www.AL7FS.us>

Solar Terrestrial Activity: <http://www.spaceweather.com>

<http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/>

ARRL <http://www.arrl.org/>

Propagation Report Recording 566-1819

Please let us know if there are other clubs pages or good starting points that should appear here.

Report dead links or bad info to [editor@kl7aa.net](mailto:editor@kl7aa.net)

### Winlink RMS's

- Anchorage VHF ARES RMS WL7CVG-10 144.9 (Elmendorf Moraine)
- Anchorage HF ARES RMS WL7CVG (multi-band scanning see [WWW.WINLINK.ORG](http://WWW.WINLINK.ORG) for frequencies)
- Palmer (MATSU) VHF RMS KL7JFT-10 145.19
- Fairbanks VHF RMS KL7EDK-10 147.96
- Fairbanks HF RMS KL7EDK (multi-band scanning see [WWW.WINLINK.ORG](http://WWW.WINLINK.ORG) for frequencies)
- South Central Digipeater WL7CVG-4 144.9 (Knik)
- Anchorage AARC VHF RMS KL7AA-10 144.98 (AARC Club Station, Hughesnet Satellite Connection)

### NETS in ALASKA:

The following nets are active in Alaska:

#### VHF

The local VHF Nets have a Packet side as well. Look for 2 meter Packet at 145.01 (Eagle) and 147.96 (Valley).

The Eagle and Valley Packet Nodes provide a "talk" or chat function. Also if you are unable to connect directly to onto the nodes, try digipeating through "EARS" on either frequency. Do this by typing "c eagle v ears" or "c vally v ears" on the appropriate frequency. See KL7AIR.US for more info on the digipeaters.

**ARES Net:** 147.33 103.5Hz - Thursdays at 8:00 PM local

**No Name Net:** 146.43 simplex Sundays 8:00 PM

**South Central Simplex Net:** 146.52 FM, 144.2 USB, 446.0 FM, 432.2 USB, 223.5 FM, 927.5 FM, 1294.5 FM, 52.525 FM, 50,125 USB, 29.6 FDM, 28.4 USB, 145.01 packet (Eagle node) and 147.96 packet (Valley node).

Tuesdays 8:00 PM local

**Alaska VHF Up Net:** 144.200 USB Saturdays 9:00 AM local

**Statewide LINK Net:** 145.15(-) PL 123.0Hz; Sundays 8:30PM local

**Alaska Morning Net:** The Alaska Morning net is held Monday through Saturday from 9am- 11am on the IRLP Reflector 9109. This net can be reached via several hosting nodes in the area. Please visit <http://status.irlp.net/index.php?PSTART=2&mode=3> to find the closest node. Also, the net can be reached via Echo Link on 9191 (WL7LP-R) and Allstar nodes 27133 and 29332.

The Alaska Statewide ARES net is held Thursday evenings at 8:30pm (following the Anchorage ARES net) on IRLP 9109, Echolink WL7LP-R and Allstar 27133 or 29332 as well as the Sunday evening Alaska Statewide Radio Link net at 8:30pm.

#### HF

- **Alaska Sniper's Net:** 3.920 MHz 6:00 PM daily
- **Alaska Bush Net:** 7.093 MHz 8:00 PM daily
- **Alaska Motley Net:** 3.933 MHz 9:00 PM daily
- **ACWN (Alaska CW Net):** 3540 kHz, 7042 kHz, 14050 kHz Non-directed, CW calling and traffic watch for relaying NTS of other written traffic. AL7N monitors continuously. Receivers always on WL2K. (RMS connection available (AL7N@winlick.org))
- **Alaska Pacific Net:** 14.292 MHz 8:30 AM M-F
- **ERC HF Net:** 3.880 MHz—Sunday 8:30PM

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## Data You Can Use:

Frequency	Tone	Call Sign	Features	Area
147.18 -	88.5	ADES		Ft. Richardson
146.88 -	no tone	AL7LE	Phone patch	Kenai Soldotna
146.82-	103.5	WL7CWE	IRLP	Anchorage
146.76 -	123.0	KL3K	IRLP	Seward
146.94 -	103.5	KL7AA	Phone patch	Anchorage to Wasilla
224.94 -	no tone	KL7AA		Anchorage
444.70 +	103.5	KL7AA	Phone Patch	Anchorage
146.67 -	103.5	KL7AIR	MARS Station	Anchorage & Highway North
147.30 +	141.3	KL7ION		Very Wide Area
146.85 -	no tone	KL7JFU		Mat Valley
146.91 -	no tone	KL7JL		Homer
147.15 +	107.2	KL5E	Phone patch	Eagle River & Chugiak
147.84 -	103.5	WL7CWE		Wasilla Repeater
<b>147.33 +</b>	<b>103.5</b>	<b>WL7CVF</b>	Cross linked to 443.900	Very Wide Area **
<b>443.900 +</b>	<b>103.5</b>	<b>WL7CVF</b>	Cross linked to 147.330	Very Wide Area **

South Central Area Simplex Frequencies	
146.52 MHz	National Calling and Emergency frequency
147.57 MHz	DX Spotting frequency
146.49 MHz	Anchorage area simplex chat
146.43 MHz	Mat-Su Valley simplex chat
147.42 MHz	Peninsula simplex chat

WINLINK	Callsign	Frequen- cy
Anchorage ARES RMS	WL7CVG-10	144.9
Palmer (MATSU) RMS	KL7JFT-10	145.19
FAIRBANKS RMS	KL7EDK-10	147.96
South Central Digipeater	WL7CVG-4	144.9
Anchorage AARC RMS	KL7AA-10	144.98

## THE AARC ANTENNA



The Anchorage Amateur Radio Club has been an ARRL Affiliated Club for more than 50 years



Are you an  
ARRL Member...  
Life Member?

[www.arrl.org/benefits](http://www.arrl.org/benefits)

### Are you a member of ARRL?

ARRL is the American Radio Relay League. This is the national organization that advocates on behalf of amateur radio operators to the FCC and the communications industry. Consider becoming a member of ARRL today. [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)

For more information about the ARRL DX Century Club Program check out: <http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/>



## KL7AA Mail Reflector

If you like to **stay in touch on KL7AA news** and other posts of local interest.

Step #1: First point your browser to: <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/kl7aa>

Step #2: On the web page you will see a section titled "Subscribing to KL7AA". Enter your e-mail address in the "Your email address" entry box.

Step #3: Pick a password for your account and enter it in the box marked "Pick a password" and then enter the same password in the box marked "Reenter password to confirm". This password will be used to change your settings on the list such as digest mode, etc.

Step #4: If you would like the e-mails in daily digest form click yes on the line marked "Would you like to receive list mail batched in a daily digest?"

Step #5: Click on the "Subscribe" button below the information that you just entered.

Step #6: Follow the directions.

### ANNOUNCEMENT:

AL7N is the Alaska Section Traffic Manager. Ed is looking for Code operators for passing formal NTS traffic throughout Alaska on the AK CW Net. For more information please contact: [AL7N@arrl.net](mailto:AL7N@arrl.net).

## THE AARC ANTENNA

### **ARES - Section 7, District 7 (Anchorage, ALASKA)**

#### **Mission statement:**

Dedicated to amateur radio as it pertains to disaster services. The history of amateur radio operators' involvement in sending life-saving information in and out of disaster areas [and] providing help during and after earthquakes, floods, hurricanes and tornadoes. "HAM's have been there to assist local, state, and federal agencies and relief organizations such as the American Red Cross and Salvation Army." When All Else Fails, Amateur Radio.

[www.ares.org](http://www.ares.org)

Emergency  
Management  
Institute



FEMA

<http://training.fema.gov/>

#### **ARES NETS:**

**Thursday Nights 8:00 PM**

**147.33+ PL:103.5**

**1st Thursday: HT / Portable**

**2nd Thursday: Mobile Madness**

**3rd Thursday: RED CROSS**

**4th Thursday: Emergency Power**

#### **ARES Anchorage District Contact Information**

**Kent Petty, KL5T@arri.net**

#### **ARES Matanuska-Susitna Valley Dis- trict**

#### **Contact Information**

**Don Bush, KL7JFT@arri.net**

**"Alaska ARES and the Alaska Native Medical Center** have in joint effort stood up a HF Remote Messaging System (HF RMS) in Anchorage. This system provides HF Radio Email Service to the area. In an emergency this system will provide digital email capabilities if we lose the Internet. It is designed to accept connections from Amateur Operators who are using either PacLink or Airmail software and a Pactor 1-3 capable Terminal Mode Controller (TNC). If the Internet is lost to the area the RMS will forward messages to another RMS over HF Radio. Being HF Radio based, the coverage area is quite large. While it is intended for intra-Alaska use we have stations from as far away as Arizona using the HF RMS to pass email traffic to the internet on occasions.

ARES and the AARC also host two VHF RMSs which provide Radio to Email service on VHF Radio in the Anchorage area. One of those RMSs is linked to the Internet via the AARC's Hughesnet Satellite Internet Service.

The WL7CVG and KL7AA RMS's frequency listings, etc. can be found on [www.Winlink.org](http://www.Winlink.org).

## THE AARC ANTENNA

### KL7AA HAMSHACK

The KL7AA station is available for training in HF operations. Learn from an experienced HF operator about propagation, voice and Morse code modes as well as best practices and legal operation. The station is fully integrated with a PC and soundcard to operate in many digital modes.

Take advantage of this unique benefit! Arrange a session by contacting the club trustee, Keith Clark, KL7MM, (aksunlite@aol.com) to meet at the KL7AA station at 5923 Rowan Street.

Notice: Any AARC sponsored repeater, with or without an auto-patch, will always be open to all licensed amateur radio operators in the area who are authorized to operate on those frequencies. **IRLP is not authorized on KL7AA repeaters except for special events as approved by the board and trustee.**

THE AARC ANTENNA is the monthly newsletter of the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club, published by and for its members. The entire contents of this newsletter are copyrighted 2011 by the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club.

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#### **Newsletter Submissions, Information or Corrections:**

All articles from members and interested persons are very welcome. If you wish to submit any articles, jokes, cartoons, please have it typed or neatly handwritten. It can be submitted by mail, computer disk or E-mail to the newsletter editor at the address listed below. Submissions must be in the hands of the editor **no later than the 10 days prior** to the general meeting. Email: [editor@kl7aa.net](mailto:editor@kl7aa.net)

Since THE AARC ANTENNA is no longer being sent out by US MAIL, we need some help from all the AARC members. We have gotten a large percentage of the e-mailed newsletters returned as undeliverable. Also we have no e-mail addresses for many of you.

Would you please e-mail "membership@KL7AA.net" with a current e-mail address and current mailing address and phone numbers (home, work, and cell — as you choose).

If you have special needs or concerns please send your comments to [editor@kl7aa.net](mailto:editor@kl7aa.net) to bring to the attention of the board of AARC. Current and newsletters from years past can be found on the club website at [www.KL7AA.net](http://www.KL7AA.net).

Thanks for your help in this.